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23 Jan 1976

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE

DATE: SEP 1999

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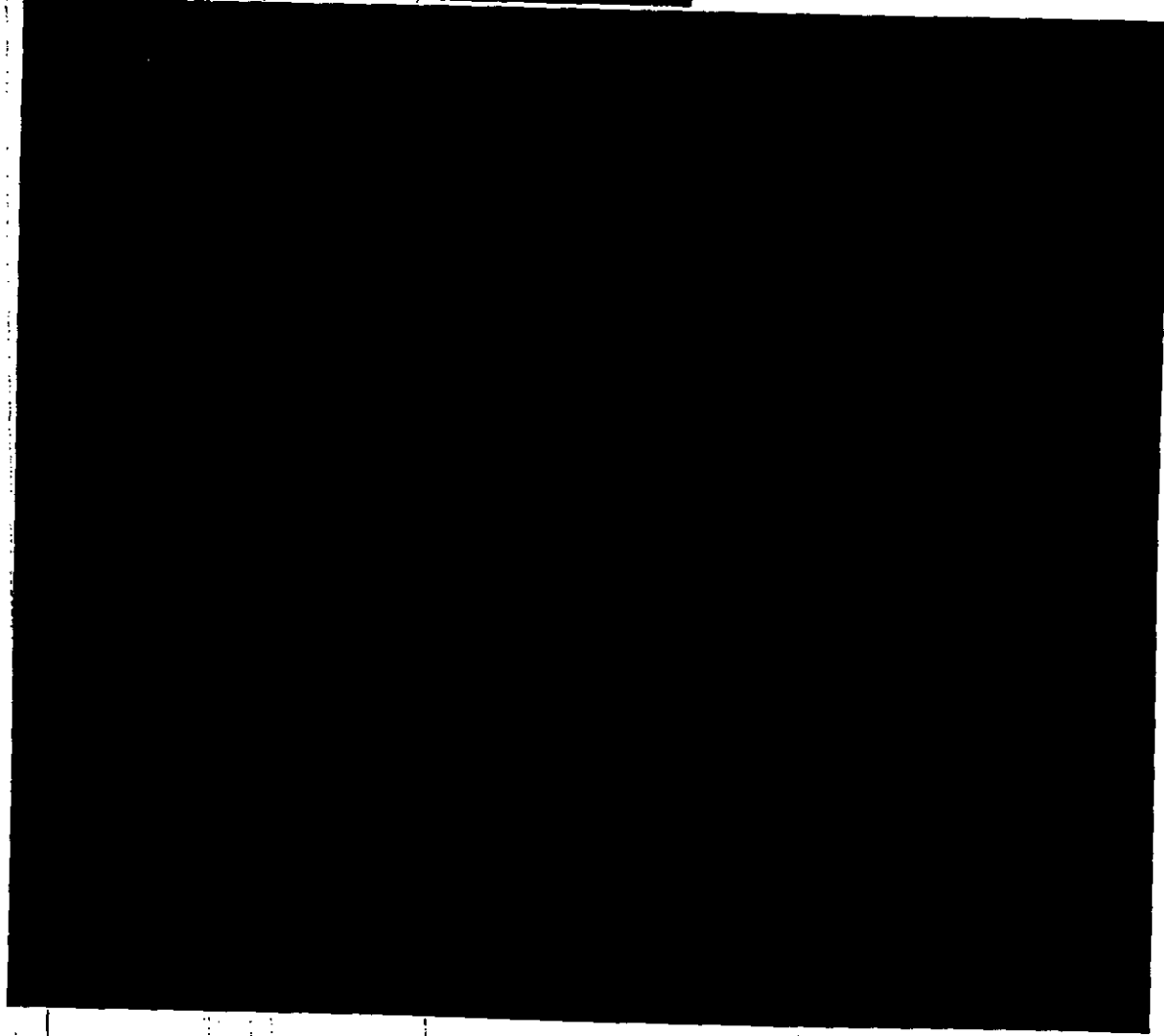
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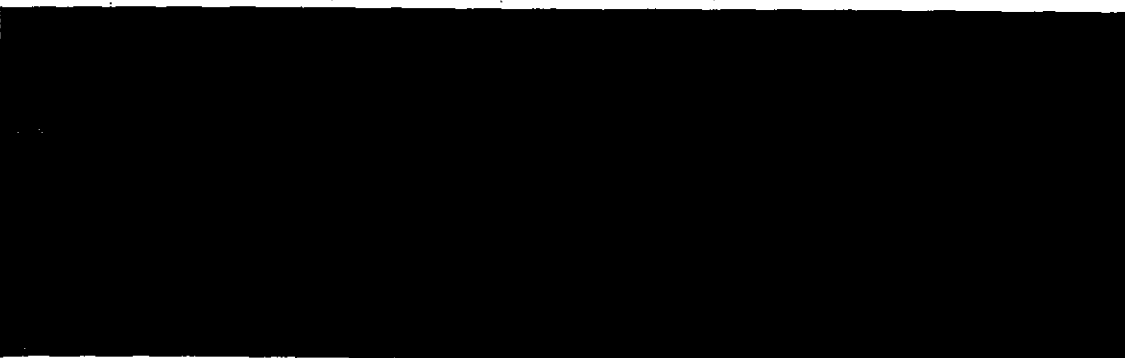
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2. //CHILE: THE PINOCHET GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO STEP UP ITS CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE FREQUENTLY CRITICAL CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY. /

//ON JANUARY 19, ADVISERS TO PRESIDENT AUGUSTO PINOCHET ACCUSED THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS AND THEIR INFLUENTIAL SPOKESMAN, EX-PRESIDENT EDUARDO FREI, OF MAKING A CONCERTED EFFORT TO DISCREDIT THE REGIME DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. THE PARTY'S RADIO STATION, PRESIDENTE BALMaceda, WHICH CONTINUALLY FAULTED GOVERNMENT POLICY AND READ LISTS OF MISSING LEFTISTS OVER THE AIR, WAS CLOSED THIS WEEK FOR THE SECOND TIME IN A YEAR. //

//THE STATION'S CENSORSHIP COMES AT A TIME WHEN THE PARTY HAS BEEN MAKING CHANGES IN ITS STAFF TO BRING IT MORE INTO LINE WITH

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PARTY POLICIES AND EASE THE STRIDENT TONE OF ITS BROADCASTS. A PARTY MAGAZINE WAS ALSO FORCED TO STOP PUBLICATION LATE LAST YEAR. /

//ANOTHER MOVE SUGGESTED TO IMPUGN THE PARTY IS THE TRANSLATION AND WIDE DISSEMINATION OF THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON US CLANDESTINE ACTIVITIES ALLEGEDLY INVOLVING THE ACQUIESCENCE OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT PARTY. IF CARRIED OUT, IT MIGHT BE EQUALLY DAMAGING TO THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT. /

//PINOCHET HAS ALREADY ISSUED A STERN WARNING TO POLITICIANS AND "KERENSKYS" WHO SEEK "TO DIVIDE THE ARMED FORCES AND DESTROY THE GOVERNMENT." HE WAS APPARENTLY REFERRING TO A BOOKLET AUTHORED BY FREI, ATTACKING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PINOCHET REGIME. COPIES ARE CIRCULATING PRIVATELY IN CHILE AND HAVE BEEN PUBLICIZED ABROAD. /

//THE EFFECT OF A CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY BE TO INCREASE INTERNATIONAL CRITICISM OF THE PINOCHET GOVERNMENT. /

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